

WOMEN HELPING OURSELVES – ATASCOCITA (WHO-A)

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The Harris County CSCD Women Helping Ourselves - Atascocita (WHO-A) is a 95 bed residential program designed to provide the Criminal Courts of Harris County with a residential program and aftercare support program for women with a Substance Abuse History.

TARGET POPULATION:

- Adult female offenders, 17 years of age and older and/or juvenile offenders 15-16 years old that have been certified as adults.
- Clients must have an assessed history of substance abuse and need a structured residential treatment program.
- Clients should have needs in the following areas:

Emotional Stability	Cognitive Deficiencies	Family Conditions
Interpersonal Relationships	Educational/Employment Issues	
- Clients with either felony or misdemeanor offenses are eligible. Misdemeanors must be assessed as high risk/needs and can comprise up to a maximum of 20% of the total program participants.
- Clients with Title 5 (crimes against persons) and sex offenses are eligible.
- Clients can be stipulated either as an initial Condition of Supervision or Modified Condition of Supervision.

Harris County CSCD will also offer residential services in the community for 15 to 17 clients that are ineligible for the WHO Atascocita program due to pregnancy, new born infants, and medical or mental health conditions that cannot be appropriately addressed at WHO Atascocita. These clients will be placed with **The Santa Maria Hostel** (contract residential treatment provider) located in the local community, which will offer similar gender-responsive treatment services as provided in the WHO Atascocita program. Clients with sex offenses are not eligible for placement at Santa Maria Hostel.

A Level of Service Inventory – Revised (LSIR) must be completed and recommend placement in a residential program prior to placing a client on the waiting list; assessed medium to high risk/needs.

PROGRAM LENGTH:

Six (6) to twelve (12) months in duration followed by six (6) months of intensive oversight in the community. Out of county clients will normally be expected to return to the sending county and participate in appropriate aftercare supervision.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

- Education – GED where needed
- Gender responsive treatment services – addressing their substance abuse
- Opportunity to change negative attitudes and behaviors
- Assume responsibility for own thoughts and behaviors
- Develop skills to succeed in a non-structured community setting

EXCLUSIONS TO ADMISSION:

- Pregnant females are not eligible for placement at WHO Atascocita
- Post Partum pregnancy – must have eight (8) weeks recovery and a medical release from the treatment OB/GYN
- Post surgical recuperation of less than four (4) months
- There are no recent suicide attempts or documentation of suicidal ideations precautions within the last ninety (90) days.
- Clients previously discharged from in-patient treatment for substantial program non-compliance must be approved by WHOA administration
- Significant mental retardation conditions
- Auditory/Visual Hallucinations
- Active Psychosis
- Clients with a history of mental health diagnosis requiring medications.
- Need of detoxification
- Dialysis or severe renal (kidney) disorders
- Chronic or severe stomach, colon, bowel disorders
- Seizure disorders NOT controlled by medication
- Chronic medications (evaluated on individual basis)
- Need for chronic pain management with prescribed narcotic medications
- Fractures
- Quarantine patients (Hepatitis, T.B., etc.)
- Presence of contagious diseases
- Heart/vascular and/or unstable blood pressure
- Bleeding disorders
- Prescription medication that alters present state of mind
- Stroke history with significant impairments
- Diabetes – oral medications and/or insulin dependent